

Message Text

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60

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 SAM-01 AEC-11 AID-20 CEA-02 CIEP-02 COME-00

EB-11 FEA-02 FPC-01 INT-08 OMB-01 SCI-06 STR-08

TRSE-00 DRC-01 /177 W

----- 091725

R 191443Z FEB 74

FM AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3772

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS UNN

USMISSION OECD PARIS UNN

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUXEMBOURG 0110

ALSO FOR T/IEP

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG; LU

SUBJ: GOL OFFICIAL COMMENT ON THE WASHINGTON ENERGY CONFERENCE

1. JEAN SCHLEICH, MFA DEPUTY DIRECTOR FOR INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC AFFAIRS WHO ATTENDED THE WEC, TOLD US THAT HE CONSIDERED THE CONFERENCE A SUCCESS SINCE IT ENABLED THE US AND THE EUROPEANS TO WORK TOWARD A COMMON SOLUTION TO THE ENERGY PROBLEM DESPITE FRENCH INTRANSIGENCE. SCHLEICH WAS PLEASED THAT THE EIGHT HAD MANAGED "TO
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ABANDON THE NARROW FRENCH POSITION THAT HAD BEEN FORCED

ON THE EIGHT PRIOR TO THE WASHINGTON CONFERENCE" AND HE WAS FULL OF PRASIE FOR THE MANNER IN WHICH THE SECRETARY AND OTHER US OFFICIALS PRESENTED US PROPOSALS.

2. SCHLEICH SAID IT WAS OBVIOUS THAT THE PRE-CONFERENCE POSITION OF THE EC WOULD BE ABANDONED ONCE THE US LINKED ENERGY WITH SECURITY AND ECONOMIC POLICIES AND ALSO OFFERED TO SHARE RESOURCES AND ENERGY TECHNOLOGY. IN THIS CONTEXT, SCHLEICH COMMENTED THAT FRG FINANCE MINISTER SCHMIDT WAS BLUNT AND FAIRLY ABRASIVE IN INTRA EC CAUCAUSES IN OPPOSING THE FRENCH POSITION BUT THAT SCHMIDT SAID ESSENTIALLY WHAT HAD TO BE SAID AND THAT THE GOL WAS IN BASIC AGREEMENT WITH SCHMIDT'S VIEWS.

3. SCHLEICH STATED THAT HE IS MOST CONCERNED WITH THE FOLLOW-UP PROCEDURES. HE DOES NOT EXPECT THE FRENCH TO BE OBSTRUCTIONIST, ALTHOUGH HE DOES NOT RULE OUT A FRENCH ATTEMPT TO BLOCK PARTICIPATION OF THE EC COMMISSION IN THE COORDINATING GROUP ACTIVITIES. SCHLEICH WAS ALSO UNSURE WHETHER THE EIGHT WOULD TRY TO MAINTAIN A COMMON POSITION AND WORK TOGETHER ON FOLLOW-UP PROCEDURES AND HE WONDERED HOW THIS MIGHT BE ACCOMPLISHED WITHOUT FURTHER INFURIATING THE FRENCH. IN ANY CASE, HE STATED THAT THERE SHOULD BE NO RETREAT FROM THE AGREEMENT IN WASHINGTON AND THAT HE FAVORED MOVING FORWARD AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE, WITH FRENCH PARTICIPATION IF POSSIBLE, BUT WITHOUT IT, IF NECESSARY. FARKAS

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